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MASA-1513

3 April 1952

Chief, EE

Chief of Station, Vienna

Operational

USAGZ-MHBK Approach to HAJDU-NEMETH

REF: WZPA-10825, MGL-A-8402, MGL-A-9573

1. In the middle of February 1952, XX-1 (Subject of MGL-A-9573) received a letter from Paris from HAJDU-NEMETH (para two, MGL-A-8402) dated 9 February 1952, and containing in Hungarian the following s/w message:

"Dear(XX-1): An important thing happened. A group composed of such members of MHBK as do not engage in daily politics, and led by a general staff major, visited me seeking personal contact. There were many interesting preludes, but about these only orally. I find this group of experts suitable for serious work. Our endeavors thus far might now find fruition providing we proceed wisely toward realizing our aims. You decide what should happen before we present the group. If you deem it important and necessary I will visit you in order to discuss the details. Reply requested! Excuse this ugly writing but this pen is miserable. How about my passport? Embrace. Lajos."

2. On being consulted by XX-1, USAGZ rather properly and on his own initiative told XX-1 to write back turning down the somewhat vague proposition. When he discussed the letter with [redacted], however, he was told that rather than a flat brusheff XX-1 should answer with an equally vague statement that he had no contacts which would be useful in the case but that he still, out of simple curiosity, would like to have full details. He did reply to that effect on about 17 February, and received a letter dated 22 February and containing the following--in part illegible--answer.

"Dear(XX-1): I have selected the presented gentlemen and at that time the controversies began (in the MHBK), since not all of them want to follow the political course of the leadership but rather desire to remain plain soldiers. They want to fight for the liberation of the country when the hour comes. Therefore they--and a lot of others--are in favor of collaboration with the Committee as far as political representation is concerned, if not in every detail. For a start I mention three names. (illegible)...have already worked...but were not exposed, they told me. They are experts for sure...Oliver LOVASZ, general staff major, was in...American captivity...one year old. Please check him. I had a good impression of him, would entrust him with leadership. I would tie to him as a good expert Lieutenant Ervin GEVAY...old, was in Schwarzwald.. (illegible). Finally Ervin HOLLOS, captain...eight old, who is assigned

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to Captain LABNER at the group. The rest I leave to you, dear (XX-1), or better you (the "you" in plural form). Embrace you. Lajos."

3. This exchange may be of some interest in view of [ ] 's information in WPPA-10825 that LOVASZ was in charge of the Linden MHBK unit. It appears to us that the proposal which [ ] discussed with [ ] has in effect been also put to us through HAJDU-NEMETH and XX-1 to USAGE. Because of USAGE's earlier RITSCHEAU connections it is probably safe to assume that the French at some level know or guess that USAGE is working with the Americans. You may wish to conjecture whether the approach through HAJDU-NEMETH represents a snafu on the part of the MHBK, on the part of the French, or could be a calculated attempt on the part of [ ] to test the Americans good faith.

4. We have been trying without success to get HAJDU-NEMETH's visa for Austria in his Temporary Travel Document in Lieu of Passport (furnished to him by POB through USAGE) renewed in order that he may visit XX-1. Needless to say, we have no intention of getting XX-1 or USAGE involved in the MHBK affair, but we do believe it would be worthwhile to have XX-1 debrief HAJDU-NEMETH for more particulars. USAGE will probably return the TTD unvisited to him this week and he will travel as far as Germany from where we will arrange to have him brought over the border if necessary.

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